



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AFGHANISTAN

SUCCESS STORY

Supporting Disabled People in Communities

USAID empowers disabled people to become active members in their communities



(Photo credit): FOCUS Humanitarian Assistance

Nawrooz lost one of his hands and his right leg in an explosion.

“We are very happy that at least [a USAID program] invited us and asked about our difficulties and problems. This has encouraged us.”

Years ago is a 45-year-old Narwrooz of Badakhshan province lost one of his hands and his right leg due to bomb blast while serving in the Afghan Army in Kandahar.

Narwrooz and other Afghans with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to natural and man-made disasters, consequences of climate change and environmental degradation. However, they are largely excluded from disaster risk reduction as well as humanitarian response programs, even though disasters, humanitarian crisis and conflicts often cause disabilities.

USAID through its Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities into disaster risk reduction planning. Through the Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction USAID prepared disabled residents of Baghlan and I Badakhshan provinces through workshops on disaster mitigation. The participants included disabled people, Afghanistan Natural Disaster Management Authority representatives, non-governmental organizations and government representatives.

After attending one of the disability workshops, Narwrooz gained the courage to return to a normal life. With the skills he gained, he now helps disabled people in his community prepare for disasters and he has become a symbol of courage in his community.

As a result of these workshops, community members are now informed about global best practices on how people living with disabilities are integrated into the disaster preparedness process.

USAID has provided \$82 million in funding to international groups responding to the emergency and offering victim assistance.